

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

M: 36-22

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Woodlin Elementary School

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 2101 Luzerne Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Silver Spring

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

8th

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☒ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☒ PUBLIC
☐ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH
PUBLIC ACQUISITION
☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☒ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK
☒ EDUCATIONAL ☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Board of Education, Montgomery Public Schools Telephone #: 279-3617

STREET & NUMBER

850 Hungerford Drive

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

VICINITY OF

MD

20850

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Department of Assessments and Taxation

Liber #: 618
Page #: 147

STREET & NUMBER

51 Monroe Street, 3rd Floor

CITY, TOWN

Rockville, MD 20850

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

CONDITION

—EXCELLENT
☒GOOD
 —FAIR

—DETERIORATED
 —RUINS
 —UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

—UNALTERED
☒ALTERED

interior

CHECK ONE

☒ORIGINAL SITE

—MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

louder woodlands hilltop

The focus of Woodlin Elementary School is the center building, the original edifice of the school (1945). The exterior of this small, one-story elementary school resembles its 1940s character. The interior has been renovated and no longer approximates Frank Proctor's original design.

This structure has traditional features which give the building a Georgian style. However, it is also an extremely simplified building with a modern appearance. Woodlin is built of red brick with flat walls, simple stone courses and cornice (not traditional in form), articulated brick quoins, and motifs resembling Georgian chimney stacks terminating each end of the center section. The school's perfect symmetry is most pronounced from the front (facing Luzerne Avenue). This edifice is comprised of a tripart composition. Two identical parallel wings (roughly rectangular and designed for classrooms) flank a set-back center block. Together, they create the traditional and symmetric H-plan.

The center-recessed block, surmounted by a cupola, is oriented toward the public view. The main entrance facade is a tripart with center entrance porch. The classical porch with white polychromed wood unfluted columns in the simple Doric Order (yet with both base and capital) is raised on a three stepped platform. A window above the door provides light to the interior entry hall. The pediment of the porch has a half circle window. Today, the roof is red.

Fortunately, modern additions have been build to the sides (and not the front) of this edifice. The building now has a low-riding, lateral, yet still roughly symmetric disposition.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

SIGNIFICANCE

M:36-22

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
___PREHISTORIC	___ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	___COMMUNITY PLANNING	___LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	___RELIGION
___1400-1499	___ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	___CONSERVATION	___LAW	___SCIENCE
___1500-1599	___AGRICULTURE	___ECONOMICS	___LITERATURE	___SCULPTURE
___1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	___MILITARY	___SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
___1700-1799	___ART	___ENGINEERING	___MUSIC	___THEATER
___1800-1899	___COMMERCE	___EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	___PHILOSOPHY	___TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	___COMMUNICATIONS, INCLUDING	___INDUSTRY	___POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	___OTHER (SPECIFY)
		___INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1945 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Frank Proctor

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Woodlin Elementary School is a late example of the Georgian Revival. Significantly, it was designed by Frank Proctor to complement the existing Georgian campus of Montgomery Hills Junior High School, located across the playing field from Woodlin. In contrast to Montgomery County's Georgian Revival schools of the 1930s, this building represents the transition from the classical Georgian to the modern. This is because it has both Georgian and modern stylistic features.

This school is also the product of the phenomenal growth of the Washington, D.C. suburbs in Montgomery County, Maryland, during the mid-20th century. The dramatic increase in student enrollment necessitated the erected of new buildings.

This Georgian style edifice represents the persistence of the classical tradition during the first half of the 20th century, a period when traditionalism and modernism came head to head. During the 1930s, architect Howard Cutler defined the academic image of Montgomery County's public schools along traditional lines. He often relied upon references to classical architecture. Cutler was concerned with the great traditions and symbolic potential of architecture.

The Georgian is the name given to the English Baroque, a classical 17th and 18th century style. The English Baroque is known for its symmetry, dignity and academicism, and for being more restrained than continental Baroque styles. A variation of the Georgian was transplanted to the English colonies in

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (CONTINUED)

North America, including Virginia and Maryland. Both Williamsburg, Virginia, and Annapolis, Maryland, are known for their Georgian Colonial architecture. Georgian architecture was rejected by Americans after the American Revolution because the style was associated with English rule. The revived classicism of the American Renaissance during the late 19th and early 20th century fostered a Georgian Revival.

During the 1930s, John D. Rockefeller's restoration of Williamsburg, Virginia, resulted in another Georgian Revival. By this time, the public's perception of Georgian architecture was positive. As a classical style, the Georgian represented tradition, civility, and stability. Most importantly, it was associated with the roots of American culture, and perceived of as an American style. The Georgian was self-consciously viewed as a style that linked American culture to European civilization.

The choice of the Georgian style for schools in Montgomery County was more logical than one might initially think. By selecting the Georgian, architects made reference to Maryland's early history and to early American educational traditions. Harvard College, Massachusetts, and William & Mary College, Williamsburg, Virginia, were the two oldest colleges in America. Their early buildings were rendered in the Georgian style.

Cupola, the small dome-like structure on the polygonal bases centrally placed atop the edifice, were traditionally associated with civic architecture. The inclusion of cupola on the school, was a way to stress the civic nature of the respective buildings.

All of this endows Woodlin with the character of a civic institution. Yet, at the same time, Proctor's use of a domestic scale makes this school more house-like, thereby recalling the school house tradition of early 20th century Montgomery County. In addition, Proctor was probably influenced by Howard Wright Cutler's design for Westbrook Elementary School (1939) in Bethesda. Cutler's school was inspired by Georgian domestic architecture.

Interestingly, it is only the center section of this building that is Georgian. In particular, the cupola and porch give this building its Georgian character. The wings are modern and have no traditional elements. This reveals one architect's attempt to make reference to the academic traditions which had dominated Montgomery County's public schools, yet also create a modernist building.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Construction Division, Montgomery County Schools;

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CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY just building (first building campaign)
entire site: 10.97 Ac.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

borders the Hebrew Academy of Greater Washington,
Brookville Road, Warren and Luzerne Avenue;

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

KARIN M.E. ALEXIS, PH.D., ART & ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

ORGANIZATION

DATE

JUNE 1988

STREET & NUMBER

2449 Villanova Drive

TELEPHONE

280-1107

CITY OR TOWN

Vienna,

Virginia

STATE

22180

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438